

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (canceled)

2. **(currently amended)** A disposable diaper having a longitudinal direction, a transverse direction, a front waist region, a rear waist region and a crotch region extending between said front and rear waist regions, said diaper comprising:

a liquid-absorbent core having a body facing upper surface and a lower surface opposite to said upper surface and extending between said front and rear waist regions;

a liquid-pervious first sheet having an upper covering section adapted to cover said upper surface of said core and a lower covering section adapted to cover said lower surface of said core;

a liquid-impervious second sheet lying outside said lower covering section of said first sheet;

said core being provided with a cleaved zone extending in said longitudinal direction and extending through a thickness of said core, said upper covering section of said first sheet continuously extending downward from said upper surface of said core along said cleaved zone and further extending outward in said transverse direction so as to define a penis pocket extending in said longitudinal direction below said cleaved zone;

~~The diaper according to claim 1,~~ wherein said lower covering section of said first sheet extends downward along said cleaved zone of said core and further extends outward in said transverse direction so that said lower covering section cooperates with said upper covering section to define said penis pocket.

3. **(currently amended)** The diaper according to claim [[1]] 2, wherein said lower surface of said core is let free from said lower covering section of said first sheet and said lower covering section is joined to said second sheet only along a peripheral edge of said core so that said penis pocket is movable below said cleaved zone.

4. **(currently amended)** The diaper according to claim [[1]] 2, wherein, except said cleaved zone of said core, said upper covering section of said first sheet has an outer surface thereof covered with a liquid-impervious third sheet.

5. **(currently amended)** The diaper according to claim [[1]] 2, wherein, of said front and rear waist regions and said crotch region, at least said front waist region is formed in a transversely middle zone thereof with said cleaved zone of said core.

6. **(new)** The diaper according to claim 2, wherein
said core comprises absorbent material wrapped in tissue paper,
said tissue paper defines the upper and lower surfaces of said core and is different from the liquid-pervious first sheet.

7. **(new)** The diaper according to claim 6, wherein said liquid-pervious first sheet defines a bottom of said pocket.

8. **(new)** The diaper according to claim 7, wherein all inner walls of the pocket are defined solely by the liquid-pervious first sheet.

9. **(new)** The diaper according to claim 7, wherein the bottom of said pocket is in direct contact with but free of direct attachment to said liquid-impervious second sheet.

10. (new) The diaper according to claim 6, wherein, except said cleaved zone of said core, said upper covering section of said first sheet has an outer surface thereof covered with a liquid-impervious third sheet which is adapted to contact a wearer's skin in use.

11. (new) The diaper according to claim 2, wherein said pocket has an inverted Ω shape.

12. (new) A disposable diaper having a longitudinal direction, a transverse direction perpendicular to the longitudinal direction, a front waist region, a rear waist region, and a crotch region extending in the longitudinal direction between said front and rear waist regions, said diaper comprising:

a liquid-absorbent core extending between said front and rear waist regions, said core having an upper surface adapted to face a wearer's body in use and a lower surface opposite to said upper surface, said core comprising absorbent material wrapped in tissue paper, said tissue paper defining the upper and lower surfaces of said core;

a liquid-pervious first sheet different from said tissue paper and covering at least said upper surface of said core;

a liquid-impervious second sheet located below and covering the lower surface of said core; and

a slit elongated in said longitudinal direction and extending through an entire thickness of said core to divide at least a front portion of said core into two halves;

wherein said first sheet comprises:

a pair of first sections each extending inwardly in the transverse direction and covering the upper surface of said core in one of said halves,

a pair of second sections each extending from one of the first sections downwardly in a thickness direction of said core and through said slit, and

a third section located between the lower surface of said core and the second sheet and connecting said second sections;

wherein said second sections define inner side walls of a pocket adapted to receive therein the wearer's penis whereas said third section defines an inner bottom wall of said pocket.

13. (new) The diaper according to claim 12, wherein said first sheet further comprises:

a pair of fourth sections each extending inwardly in the transverse direction and covering the lower surface of said core in one of said halves, and

a fifth section located between the third section and the second sheet and connecting said fourth sections,

wherein said fourth sections define outer side walls of said pocket whereas said fifth section defines an outer bottom wall of said pocket.

14. (new) The diaper according to claim 12, further comprising:

a liquid-impervious third sheet positioned above and covering one of said first sections of said first sheet, said liquid-impervious third sheet being adapted to contact the wearer's body in use.

15. (new) The diaper according to claim 12, wherein said slit extends continuously over said crotch region and into both said front and rear waist regions.

16. (new) The diaper according to claim 13, wherein said fifth section of said first sheet is in direct contact with but free of direct attachment to said second sheet.

17. (new) The diaper according to claim 16, wherein said first sheet is directly joined to said second sheet only in said fourth sections and along longitudinal peripheral edges of said core, so that said pocket is movable below said core.

18. (new) The diaper according to claim 12, wherein said slit defines an opening of said pocket, said opening being configured for allowing insertion of the wearer's penis therethrough.

19. (new) The diaper according to claim 12, wherein said pocket has an inverted Ω shape.

20. (new) The diaper according to claim 12, wherein each of said second sections of said first sheet further extends outwardly in the transverse direction away from said slit and covers partially the lower surface of said core.

21. (new) The diaper according to claim 13, wherein
each of said second sections of said first sheet further extends outwardly in the transverse direction away from said slit and covers partially the lower surface of said core; and

each of said fourth sections of said first sheet extends inwardly in the transverse direction obliquely from the lower surface of said core to an upper surface of said second sheet, and is spaced from the respective second section by an air gap.